

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) Method for manufacturing hollow bodies made of PET with a gas barrier coating with a coating agent having a polyvinyl alcohol base, comprising:  
subjecting the surface of the hollow body to a first preliminary treatment by flaming to increase surface energy,  
electrostatically discharging the hollow body by ionized air during a second treatment step,  
maintaining the warming of the hollow body from the first preliminary treatment step, coating the hollow body by swelling it with a polyvinyl alcohol coating agent, allowing the coating agent to drip off, and  
drying of the coating.
2. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, where the surface energy is increased to a value above 60 mN/m.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, and an additional preliminary treatment with a fat dissolving agent, which preliminary treatment is carried out before the treatment to increase the surface energy.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the drying is carried out with warm, dehumidified air at a temperature of less than approximately 60°C and with a water content of less than approximately 3 g/m<sup>3</sup>.
7. (Withdrawn) Device for the manufacture of hollow bodies with a gas barrier coating, in particular containers made of PET, in particular with a polyvinyl alcohol-based coating, comprising a device to increase the surface energy of the surface to be coated, a coating device, a dryer, and a multi-step preliminary treatment section having a device for electrostatically discharging the surface to be treated, which device is arranged after the device to increase the surface energy.
8. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 7, wherein the device for electrostatically discharging is an air shower with ionized air.

9. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 7 wherein the preliminary treatment section contains a device to degrease the surface to be coated, which device is arranged before the device to increase the surface energy.

10. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 7, and a film formation section arranged between the coating device and the dryer.

11. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 10, wherein the dryer is a warm air dryer and contains a dehumidification device for the dryer air.

12. (Withdrawn) Device according to Claim 7, and a second coating device follows immediately after the dryer for drying the gas barrier layer, for applying an additional layer which covers the gas barrier layer, and in that an additional dryer for the second layer follows.

13. (Previously presented) Method according to Claim 2, where the surface energy is increased to a value above 70 mN/m.

14. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 4, wherein the fat dissolving agent comprises ethyl alcohol.

15. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 6, wherein the air temperature is approximately 45°C.

16. (Currently Amended) Method for manufacturing hollow bodies with a gas barrier coating with a coating agent having a polyvinyl alcohol base, where a surface of a hollow body to be treated is subjected to a preliminary treatment to increase surface energy, coated with a polyvinyl alcohol coating agent and then dried, comprising a multi-step preliminary treatment, where the hollow body is electrostatically discharged after the increase in the surface energy, and an additional preliminary treatment with a fat dissolving agent, which preliminary treatment is carried out before the treatment to increase the surface energy.

17. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 16, wherein the fat dissolving agent comprises ethyl alcohol.